



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE ALLIGATOR CIRCUIT

502 N. 6TH ST. ~ ORANGE, TEXAS 77630

OFFICE (409) 886-7466 ~ FAX (409) 886-0489 ~ WWW.FUMCORANGE.ORG

To access the Southeast Texas District newsletter, visit southeastdistrict.org.

APRIL 2017

Rev. John E. Warren

Senior Pastor

Doug Rogers

Director of
Music & Fine Arts

Randall Bridges

Director of
Christian Education & Youth

Jeff Harris

Donna Rogers
Organists

Norma Bergeron

Administrative Assistant

Samantha Ziller

Nursery Coordinator

Mary Grimes

Lisa Hodge
Nursery Caregivers

Mission Statement:

*To make disciples
of Jesus Christ
for the transformation
of the world.*

The next newsletter will be for
the entire month of May.
To have information included,
please send it to

news@fumcorange.org
by

Friday, April 21
so the newsletter can be
distributed before May 1.

ROOTED IN CHRIST ... BRANCHING OUT IN FAITH ... DISCIPLES MAKING DISCIPLES

It Is What Is On the Inside

How you look on the outside is an indicator of the life on the inside. You know when you look at a loved one and they don't look well. Maybe their eyes are glassy, their skin color is dull, or the rosy cheeks are pale.

You have heard it said you can't judge a book by its cover, and, of course, that is true to an extent. But when things look ragged and unkept, it does reflect on the care and nurture that is given. For example on December 1, 1995, I fell off the roof and broke my back and shoulder putting up Christmas lights. I was in the hospital 6 days and had a long rehab after surgery. I was not able to take the Christmas lights down. One of my wonderful neighbors—I don't know which one, the letter was unsigned—wrote a letter stating that if I could put the Christmas lights up, I could surely take them down.

I want you to notice the great work that has been done around the church to make it more inviting:

- The ragged cross and flame on the crosswalk is gone—replaced by a new one that looks like etched glass, very elegant.
- The flower beds in the front of the church and prayer garden have been rejuvenated.
- The Welcome Center entrance has new plants and planters to make it stand out. The rock border around the beds adds a finished look and will keep the mulch from washing away.
- But the painting of the Education building and Chapel really give it a fresh look!

So what about the inside? That is where we are.

During the season of Lent, we work on the inside to make the outside more appealing. Why? Because we are to be a reflection of Christ, not a reflection of the world. The outside of the church is an indication of what is happening on the inside.

I am so proud of the work our VCI teams are doing, and more teams are forming to continue on our goals.

- ☑ Check out the new website at fumcorange.org or follow us on Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter.
- ☑ Watch for our new logo coming soon—it will feature a tree with the words – Rooted in Christ – Branching out in Faith – Disciples making Disciples.
- ☑ Invite your friends and neighbors for our Holy Week services on Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, and Easter.

See you Sunday if not before!
John

Time to Update our Directory Information

We are updating our church records—Names, addresses, e-mail addresses, home & cell phone information, emergency contact person. At first, EACH PERSON will complete a [Communication Card](#). After that, each family can just write the names of those attending and check a box if any directory information changes.

Lord, help us to be a family of faith. to worship You, learn, grow in Your likeness, and serve You by serving others. Amen.

Our Faithfulness

Worship Attendance

March 5	March 12	March 19	March 26
8:00.....20	8:0020	8:00 22	8:00 22
9:00.....64	9:0050	9:00 58	9:00 46
11:00.....48	11:0034	11:00 58	11:00 48
Total 132	TOTAL 104	TOTAL 136	Car washers.. 14
			TOTAL 130

Giving

February 2017
(final)
Income.....\$49,087.03
Expenses ..\$46,972.51
\$2,114.52

April Worship

April 2, 2017

Scripture:
Matthew 5:27-28
Sermon:
DANGER! Lust

Communion

Ushers: Team #1
8:00 – Kenneth
Wheeler, Jean
Whitley, Elaine
Cooper
11:00 – Bob Izer, Ricky
Harper, Frank
Beauchamp, John
Cochran

Altar Guild: Sandra
Hoke Team

9 am Greeters: Greg &
Dina Defrates

Parking Lot Greeters:
9:00 – Sherri & Jeff
Fruge
11:00 – Sandra Hoke &
Betty Merchant

Lay Readers:
8:00 – Marilyn Powell
9:00 – Barbara Dardeau
11:00 – Betty Merchant

April 9, 2017

Scripture:
Matthew 21:11-13
Sermon:
DANGER! Anger



Ushers: Team #2
8:00 – Pie & David
Bridges
11:00 – Brown Claybar,
Phil Grooms, Jim
Pledger, Ken
Hillsten

Altar Guild: Sandra
Hoke Team

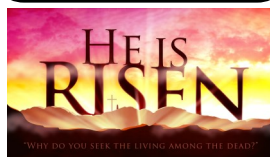
9 am Greeters: Trisha
& Bobby Anderson

Parking Lot Greeters:
9:00 – Jeff & Susan
Eby
11:00 – Beverly &
Charlie Blalack

Lay Readers:
8:00 – Vernon Murray
9:00 – Sandra Warren
11:00 – Gwen
Whitehead

April 16, 2017

Scripture:
Matthew 28:1-10
Sermon:
I Am Not Finished!



Ushers: Team #3 & #5
8:00 – Vernon Murry,
Jim Snider; Don &
Debbie Bayliss,
Richard Powell
11:00 – John Griffith,
Jerry Windham, Jim
Armstrong, Ron
Hopperton; Hubert
Hancock, Travis
Miller, Barry Bates

Altar Guild: Sandra
Hoke Team

9 am Greeters: Julie &
Richard Allensworth

Parking Lot Greeters:
9:00 – Richard &
Leighia Barron
11:00 – Lyn Fields &
Betty James

Lay Readers:
8:00 – Pie Bridges
9:00 – Julie
Allensworth
11:00 – Lynn Fields

April 23 2017

Scripture:
John 15:1-8
Sermon:
***Faith Journey-
Where Do We
Go Now?***

Ushers: Team #4
8:00 – Charlotte & Ed
Foreman
11:00 – Mat Taylor,
Sarah Boehme,
Drew Domas
Altar Guild: Sandra
Hoke Team

9 am Greeters: Cindy
Reynolds & Donna
Benefield

Parking Lot Greeters:
9:00 – Barbara & Dale
Dardeau
11:00 – Shirley Hudson
& Nevella Toal

Lay Readers:
8:00 – Ken Hillsten
9:00 – Leighia Barron
11:00 – Jonathon Vogt

Church Office Closed

Friday, April 14
Monday, April 17

April 30, 2017

Scripture:
John 1:35-39
Sermon:
***Faith Journey-
How Do We Get
There?***

Ushers: Team #5
8:00 – Don & Debbie
Bayliss, Richard
Powell
11:00 – Hubert
Hancock, Travis
Miller, Barry Bates

Altar Guild: Sandra
Hoke Team

9 am Greeters: Gerald
Ziller

Parking Lot Greeters:
9:00 – Bart & Ginger
Williams
11:00 – Archie
McLellan & Jim
Armstrong

Lay Readers:
8:00 – Jerry Roberts
9:00 – Greg Defrates
11:00 – Jim Armstrong

April 13, 2017

Maundy Thursday
7:30 p.m. in Chapel



**On Easter Sunday, bring flowers
to any of the 3 services to
decorate the flowering cross!**

During Communion, all offerings left at the rail go to
Orange Christian Services.

Every 1st Sunday—**OCS Collection Sunday.**

Give money (in envelope marked OCS) or
place donated items in OCS containers in Family Life Center.



Please pray for our “Family” of the week

Apr. 2	Michael Lafley
Apr. 9	Suse Magee
Apr. 16	Billie Jo Nelson
Apr. 23	Lana & John Ostermaier
Apr 30	Ruby Parks



Join us in the Family Life Center!

Youth Sunday School at 10 am

Share how God is working in our lives and look more in depth at the Bible

Sunday Night CREW from 5-7 pm

Christians Ready, Equipped, and Willing

Join us for a meal, fellowship, worship, music, skits, games, and Jesus.

Social Media

Join our [text message group](#) to get reminders about upcoming FUMC Youth announcements by texting [@fumcora](#) to 81010
Facebook: [fumcorangeyouth](#)
Instagram & Twitter: [@fumcorangeyouth](#)

April 2—Meet at 2:15 to attend OCP “Guys and Dolls”

April 21-22—Confirmation Retreat at Tom and Becky Henry’s house (Bridge City)

Confirmants are required to attend as we make our stoles, finish up lessons, and bond together through food and games.

May 12-13—30 Hour Famine at FUMC (6-12th graders) Cost: Donations

It's students around the world loving God and fighting hunger. Every year, hundreds of thousands of students in the U.S. unite to do the Famine. This year, we will join multiple churches nationwide during our famine. Participants learn about hunger, raise funds to help hungry kids, and experience hunger for themselves. earn more about the famine by going to <https://www.30hourfamine.org/>



Looking Ahead to the Summer of 2017:

June 12-17—UM Army Mission’s Trip in Alto, TX (9-12th graders) Cost: \$250/person

This year we will be in Alto, TX at A. Frank Smith UMC. UM Army is a 7-day camp where participants combine their strengths to provide free home repairs for low-income, elderly, and disabled homeowners who are physically or financially unable to make needed repairs. The work at U.M. ARMY provides an opportunity to practice Christian faith and love through action. The worship and devotional materials provide opportunities for spiritual development, learning, and discussion. More information can be found at <http://tx.umarmy.org/>

July 13-17—Big Stuf Summer Camp at Panama City Beach, FL (9-12th graders) Cost: \$393/person

Big Stuff is a camp with quality Biblical teaching, passionate worship, and a beautiful place to be with God. Their mission and vision is to inspire students to live life with Jesus by creating experiences that will make a difference in the lives of students. For more information visit: <http://bigstuf.com/>

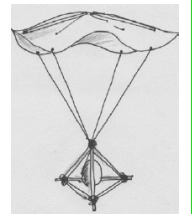


Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, April 9, at 5 p.m.

Easter Egg Drop Contest will follow!

Bring individually wrapped candy to the church by Sunday, April 2.



Wednesday Night Live

Meal/Fellowship at 5 p.m., Classes from 6-7 p.m.

Spring classes end April 19!

From Life Lessons with Max Lucado - Suzanne Magee

Twelve week studies with Reflection questions to begin your study, a Bible Reading section with text in both the NCV and NKJV, Discovery questions to help you explore the Bible, Inspirational thoughts from the writings of Max Lucado, Response questions for discussion, prayer, and room for journaling.

April 5—VCI Town Hall Meeting at 6 p.m.

Introduction to Bible Journaling -

Nicole Watzlavik & Misty Grooms

Bible Journaling is a popular spiritual practice. If you are wanting to learn a new way to connect with God, to fall in love with your Bible, help with Bible memorization, and leave a legacy while doing so...join us for an introduction into Bible Journaling.

WNL DINNERS **AT 5 P.M.**

Apr 5 - "Pizza Night" Pizza and Salad

Apr 12 - Unfinished Crafters will prepare Potatoes & Sausage. Donations will

help Love Circle fund "Christmas Angels."

Apr 19 - Youth preparing meal. Donations will support "Youth Christmas Shopping."

**\$5 Adult;
\$2 ages 3-12;
\$15 Family;
\$5 Take-out**

Dinner is served.

Mr. Doug’s **First Methodist Kids**



1st Methodist Kids meet with Mr. Doug on Sundays from 5 to 7 p.m. We meet on the playground and have dinner together. K-5th graders welcome. Call Mr. Doug with questions, 779-2143.



502 NORTH SIXTH ST.
ORANGE, TX 77630

OFFICE HOURS

Monday- Thursday

8:30am - 4:30pm

Friday

8:30am - Noon

WORSHIP HOURS

8:00a - Traditional service
in the Chapel

9:00a - Celebration service
in the Family Life Center

10:00a - Sunday School
(9:40a Pairs & Spares)

11:00a - Traditional service
in the Sanctuary

FIRST UMC-ORANGE'S VISION:

ROOTED IN CHRIST ... BRANCHING OUT IN FAITH ... DISCIPLES MAKING DISCIPLES

At First UMC-Orange, we make Disciples who make Disciples! It is just that simple! It's what we do!

From revival and renewed spirit through worship, we move people from the sanctuary to the community delivering God's message of hope and grace through Jesus Christ. Whenever and wherever we come together, we do so in His name, modeling His Grace and sharing His Word.

For saints and seekers; for individuals and families; for those more or less fortunate; for young and old alike...The *good news* is for all people. We are the voices and the hands branching out in Faith to encourage and support people. We provide worship, programs, and activities for families and individuals that will help you take God's word and apply it to *your* circumstances so He can change *your* life in ways you knew not possible.

Through Christ, we will facilitate the transformation of individuals into His People and our community into His community! At First UMC-Orange, we make disciples who make disciples! It is just that simple! It's what we do!

First UMC One-Board

Finance – Chris Abshire & Greg Defrates, Trustees – Gary Bonneaux & David Bridges, SPR – Jim Armstrong (Board Chair) & Jonathan Vogt, Communications - Ginger Williams, Lay Leader - Carol Allen, Members at Large – Janice Gresham & Betty Merchant, Secretary – Sherri Frugé, Secretary Assistant - Barbara Dardeau, Pastor - John Warren

Next meeting - 3rd Thursday, April 20 at 6 p.m.; deadline for agenda items - 2nd Thursday, April 13

Quarterly Town Hall Meeting Wednesday, April 5 @ 6 p.m. Family Life Center

Agenda:

- Reports from VCI teams
- Demonstrate the new website
- Demonstrate online giving website
- Explain Flow Chart of "Committees"
- Explain New Communication Cards

VCI Teams

Communications
Community Connection (Events & Building Relationships)
Disciple Making
Hospitality
Ministry Program Review
Nominations/Lay Leadership Development
Space Utilization (formerly called Community Liaison)
Vision
Worship Excellence

Monthly VCI Team Meetings with Coach Marilyn Wadkins

Saturday, April 1:

10:15-11:15 - ~~Communications~~

11:30-12:30 - ~~Disciple-making~~

12:30- 1:30 - Lunch

1:30- 2:30 - ~~Hospitality~~

Saturday meetings will be rescheduled for funeral

Sunday, April 2:

Noon-1:30 - Vision

1:45-2:45 - Worship Excellence

(Times still available for other VCI teams.)

March VCI Team Updates

Communications - The fumcorange.org website is live. Updates should be sent to Randall. Online giving will soon be available. The team is looking at a new format for the traditional and contemporary bulletins. Once the new Communication Cards are in use (starting Palm Sunday), the invitation to join page can be eliminated. A visitor follow-up plan is being adopted from the book *Fusion*. Welcome Center weekly greeters and Bakers for Christ are being organized by Priscella Burns, who has agreed to serve as the new Welcome Center Coordinator.

Hospitality - The cross and flame has been installed on the crosswalk. The sign proposal was approved and included added lighted signage on the Family Life Center building to be visible from Green Avenue (at no additional cost). Other completed projects include landscaping and painting of the buildings as well as placing new planters by the Welcome Center doors (thanks to Betty Merchant and Sandra Hoke).

Vision - The mission statement presented was well received. The team agreed upon a new logo, and the final artwork is being finished by Randall Bridges and Marcia Brown on the Communications Team. The team is setting one-, three-, and five-year goals.

Worship Excellence – On March 26, the team met again with Dr. Craig Gilbert of Chapelwood UMC. He also held a second two-hour workshop with the Praise Team. A Worship Design Team has been formed for the contemporary service; a separate Design Team is being formed to plan the traditional services.

Other One-Board Updates:

Betty James is the new Intercessory Prayer leader, and other people have joined this important ministry.

After unsuccessful attempts to contact donors of undesignated memorials, the One-Board decided these funds will be put into the General Operating Fund for church use.

VCI VIBRANT PRAYER WITH PURPOSE

And the Lord, who is the Spirit, makes us more and more like Him as we are changed into His glorious image. 2 Corinthians 3:18



Prayer:

As we celebrate the resurrection of our Redeemer, may we be changed to be more like Him. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen

April Events:

April 5—WNL Meal at 5; p.m.; **1st Quarterly Town Hall Meeting** at 6 p.m. in Family Life Center—updating everyone on VCI progress!

April 9—HOSANNA!!! Celebrate Palm Sunday!

—Easter Egg Hunt/Activities, 5 p.m.

April 13—Maundy Thursday Service of Shadows w/Communion, 7:30 p.m., Chapel
(Bring the nail you received at the Ash Wednesday service.)

—Deadline for One-Board Agenda items

April 14 & 17—Church Office Closed

April 16—HE IS RISEN!!! Bring flowers to decorate the flowering cross!

—Easter Breakfast for all provided by United Methodist Men, 9-11 a.m., Malloy Center

April 20—April One-Board meeting (3rd Thursday), 6 p.m.

April 22—Celebrate Earth Day, 9 a.m., Field of Plenty Community Garden (see info below)

Upcoming Events:

May 7—Confirmation Sunday, One Service at 11 a.m.

—Youth Fundraiser Meal, 5 p.m., Family Life Center

—1st Methodist Kids present “The Kingdom Connection” at 6 p.m. in the Family Life Center

May 12-13—Youth participating in 30-Hour Famine

May 28—ONE SERVICE at 11 a.m.— Youth Choir from Christ UMC-College Station followed by congregation meal at noon

June 11—Deadline for Family “Design a Robot” for VBS (see contest info below)

June 11-17—UM Army Mission Trip to Alto, TX (9th-12th graders)

June 19-23—Vacation Bible School “Maker Fun Factory,” 9-11:30 a.m.

SAVE THE DATE

COMING
UP



Like or follow:
FUMCOrangeTX



On Saturday April 22, at 9 a.m., come celebrate Earth Day at The Field of Plenty Donation Community Garden at 2120 Wickard, directly behind Orange Christian Services.

You will be planting pecan trees, fig trees, and crab apple trees bought with a donation from the FUMC missions committee. The church name will be attached to the planted trees.

Come enjoy Earth Day outside by giving back to the earth and helping The Field of Plenty provide produce for those in need.

Sunday, May 7

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

5 p.m.—**Youth Meal Fundraiser**

Donations will help with summer expenses.

6 p.m.—1st Methodist Kids present
“The Kingdom Connection”

A musical about some of the greatest kings of Israel from Saul to Solomon and more including Jesus, the King of kings.

Mark your calendars
Invite your family and friends to
Vacation Bible School



June 19–23
9–11:30 a.m.
Preschool
thru 5th grade

Family Design a Robot Contest

Robots must
be completed by
6/11

Bots will be
judged and a
prize will be
awarded

Robots
should be
2 feet or
taller

Join the FUN!! And
make a robot to share
at VBS

Be Creative use:
recyclables
craft supplies
junk yard finds

Robots will
be on
display
during VBS



Would you volunteer to help?

Any skill can be helpful!

Answering the phones, helping in the kitchen, stuffing envelopes, yard work, etc.

Please call the church (886-7466) to volunteer!

Many people enjoy the time of fellowship between services and Sunday School in our Welcome Center. Visitors too!

Can you provide delicious homemade or purchased goodies for the Welcome Center once in a while on Sunday mornings?



**Welcome Center
Bakers for Christ
Needed**

If you like to bake or would be willing to help with this ministry, please contact Priscella Burns at PBurns@gt.rr.com.

Thanks to our April Volunteer Bakers:

April 2 — Trisha Anderson & Ginger Williams
April 9 — Julie Allensworth & Suzanne McGee
April 16 — Enjoy Easter Breakfast @ Malloy
April 23 — Dana Sandlin & Priscella Burns
April 30 — Marcia Brown & Gwen Whitehead



Memorials:

Denise Taylor

Wanda & Ray Dal Sasso

Congratulations!



To **Sandra Hoke**
on the birth of her granddaughter,
Evalyn Ann Hoke,
born February 28, 2017,
to Robert & Michelle Hoke!

To **Bart and Ginger Williams**
on the birth of their grandson,
Ridley Arthur Williams,
born March 26, 2017, to
Jake and Nicole Williams!



This cross was hand-made from the pine paneling we had to cut out of our sanctuary to allow the walls to dry. You have piece of our sanctuary, and our hearts! Bless you!

*Mrs & Mrs Darrell Woodard
Willard + Evelyn White
Rev Sharon Saborn*

Please accept this cross as a small token of our appreciation for all you did to help restore the First United Methodist Church of Deweyville. Without your help, it would not have happened. From the bottoms of our hearts, we thank you!

*Lexan Davis Shirley Wilson
Blenda Dailly But Reeves
Lorne & Lenny Cope
Blair Burke*



First United Methodist Church
Deweyville, Texas

March 15, 2016



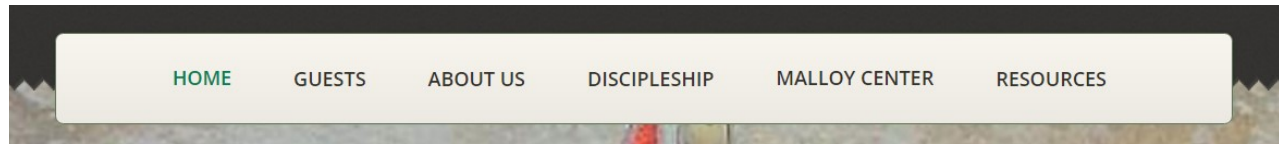
The "Great Flood" of
2016

September, 2016

Congratulations to
Dyanna Sandlin
and **Joe Lea**, who were
married in February!



Have You Checked Out FUMC's new website? (same URL as before—www.fumcorange.org)



FUMC-Orange's New Website Has Launched!

The updated church website is now a place where guests and members can be more informed about and keep up to date with FUMC Orange.

A website is always a work in progress! If you see something that you feel should be included or updated on the new website (and we are certain more should be added), please let Randall know so the website can be kept as accurate as possible.

Randall@fumcorange.org

Under Discipleship Prayer Ministries

PrayerBlasts:

With ONE email (see below), you can send a message to the several people who can also share that prayer request to the congregation through emails and/or social media posts.

Intercessory Prayer Ministry:

While the Intercessory Prayer Team gets the PrayerBlasts, this team also receives requests for confidential prayers. They faithfully pray DAILY for the sick, injured, and others in need as shared through each confidential prayer request. Requesters can ask the team to send "notes of encouragement" to let the recipient know the unique blessing of comfort that someone is praying on his/her behalf.

Under Resources

Online Giving: When you click Online Giving, you will be directed to the Heart-Spring Methodist Foundation page.



Once you create your account, you can make online payments or donations to FUMC Orange by using your credit card or checking account.

Calendar: The calendar page mirrors the master calendar in the church office. Church activities will be listed as well as details about those activities. For example, each Sunday service is listed, and when you click on a particular Sunday, you can see the scripture, sermon title, greeters, ushers, lay readers, altar team, Welcome Center Bakers, etc. This calendar is live and will reflect changes as they are made. To add/update information, use the "news" email so the key people know the details to help promote an activity!

Upcoming Events:

This page includes upcoming events that don't occur regularly.

- What activities are planned for Easter Week?
- When is VBS? What is this year's theme? What can you do to help?
- When are the Youth Summer Trips?
- When is the next Emmaus walk?

New Group Emails:

News—News@fumcorange.org

If you have something you want others to know about, now you can send ONE email to those who work on the bulletins, newsletters, website, social media, print media, calendar, etc. *Be sure to include enough information so that it can be correctly publicized!*

Prayer Blasts—PrayerBlasts@fumcorange.org

Prayer Requests—Use form on Intercessory Prayer webpage or send email to

PrayerRequests@fumcorange.org

Include an address to have a note of encouragement sent!